

The Grand Valley Ledger

Weekly Coverage of Ada, Alto, Cascade, Forest Hills, Lowell and Saranac

VOLUME ONE, ISSUE THIRTY-FOUR

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1976

PRICE FIFTEEN CENTS



The Saginaw Drum and Bugle Corps from Saginaw recently won the V.F.W. State Championship. The corps is instructed by Lowell High School teacher Michael Clark and Lowell High School Band Director Robert Rice.

The Corps will be competing in Grand Rapids on July 15 at the Godwin Heights Athletic field for the American Legion State Championship.

The Kent County Health Department's Mobile Unit will be at the Lowell American Legion Hall, 805 East Main Street on Wednesday, July 15, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

No appointments are necessary for the variety of service offered . . . vaccinations, vision and hearing tests, electrocardiograms, emergency first aid, etc.

Enumerators will be going door-to-door in Ada Township, July 13-22, to conduct a Federal mid-term census. Mary Mahoney, Federal special census supervisor, will be in charge of the Ada census.

Applications for enumerators, who must be at least 18, U.S. citizens, in good health and have a car, are being taken at the Ada Township Hall, 555 Ada Drive.

Township officials have estimated the census will add 1,500 persons to the 4,479 estimate from the 1970 Federal Census.

Saranac tavern owner, Elmer Gregory, has, through the Cancer Society's buck board collection, made the largest single contribution in history for a tavern in Ionia County. Gregory's outstanding contribution totalled over \$376.

For his efforts, Gregory was presented with a trophy by Phil Dawson, in charge of Ionia County's buck-board solicitations and Ronald Story, Cancer Drive Chairman.

A property damage accident on East Main Street, near the City limits, June 26, involved vehicles driven by Linda Bristol and Mark Sellers. Lowell Police report the Bristol vehicle was struck from behind while in the process of making a turn.

Another accident investigation was made on Kent Street, near Jefferson when a car driven by Steven Ridgway backed around the corner into the path of a vehicle driven by Edwin Swanson.

Uninjured in an accident on M-21 across from the Valley Vista Trailer Park, was Richard McBain who lost control of his car, when he was attempting to pass another vehicle.

Area businessmen should beware of incoming telephone calls from a company making verifications on business directory listings. The directory is being updated, says the caller, and he needs to verify the firm's officers' names.

When the list is verified, the caller may or may not quote you a price for the directory listing.

What is almost inevitable, however, is the arrival a few days later of an invoice using the name of one of the officers from the verified list as the person who authorized the listing.

A voting machine will be on display at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Road, S.E., from now until July 15, from anyone having questions on the proper way to vote, or the proper way to write-in a candidate.

Regular office hours at the hall are Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. They're closed on Wednesdays.

Thus far, only two write-in candidates for the office of supervisor have indicated their intentions to run, Mrs. Beverly Spillane and Harry Yetter.

With the bicentennial activities in full swing, it's well to remember that part of the heritage we celebrate is the right to vote. All persons, 18 years of age and older, are eligible.

The deadline for registration for the August 3 Primary Election in the State of Michigan is Tuesday, July 6. Registration for the November 2 General Election must be made by Monday, October 4.

GRATTAN FIREMEN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR HURST POWER TOOL

Starting Friday, July 9, members of the Grattan Township Fire Department will be starting a door-to-door campaign to raise funds for a Hurst Tool to be used jointly by the Grattan and Cannon Township Fire Departments and Rescue Units within

the townships as well as other surrounding areas whenever the need arises.

This is a much needed life saving device used to extract people trapped in automobiles, industrial or home accidents.

For more information, contact the Grattan Township Fire Chief William Weeks at 691-8001.

Bonds Are Signed For Water Treatment Plant



Mayor, Robert Christiansen is shown above signing the Farmer's Home Administration Bond for the City's water treatment plant.

Representatives from the State and Federal governments joined Lowell city officials Wednesday, June 30, in the completion of the financial arrangements for the new municipal water treatment plant.

The \$1,390,000 project is financed with local funds on hand and a low-interest Farmers Home Administration loan in the amount of \$1,310,000. Mayor Robert Christiansen signed the bonds prior to the loan closing.

The new plant is the major part of the three-step project to provide Lowell residents with what city officials describe as "water as soft as Lake Michigan." City Manager Ray Quada explained that the water in the big lake is of very good quality and is frequently used as the standard for Michigan communities.

The new plant will have a capacity of 1.75 million gallons per day, and is estimated to be sufficient to service the city until the year 1995.

In addition to the plant, the total project includes the development of three new, high volume wells, some additional water mains and a new storage tank to assure an adequate flow in case of an emergency such as a major fire.

According to Quada, the project is scheduled for completion next summer.

New Mains

Quada also announced that construction on the new mains would begin Thursday. The pipe will be installed on the north side of Bowes Road from the plant site to Schneider Manor, through the apartment complex to the intersection of Grand and Brook Streets.

Construction will continue on Brook and Amity Streets between Grand and Main. The last installation will be a 12" main from Jefferson Street up to the elevated storage tank.

He also stated that every effort had been made to avoid tearing up the new streets. "Most of the construction is along unimproved streets and private easements.

We do have crossings at three places along Bowes Road and two on Brook Street, but we will pay close attention to the repair of the pavement so that the surface will remain in good condition."

The construction of the mains is expected to take about 30 days.

It All Began As A Routine Day . . .

Planning to go away Saturday morning, June 26, a rural Saranac farmer, Walter H. Schweitzer arose early to dispense with a few chores before his departure.

Deeming it to be just another routine day, Schweitzer had fed his turkeys and was packing a few items in his car, when suddenly, the day's schedule of events were drastically altered.

It was about 5 a.m. when Schweitzer was approached by a walk-away inmate, Vernon Burnette, from the Ionia Reformatory.

Burnette, 27, informed Schweitzer he was armed with a knife and gun, and wanted the keys to the car . . . which unbeknownst to Schweitzer he had already tried to hot-wire it, but couldn't drive it away because of the 'locked' steering mechanism.

Like most typical car owners, Schweitzer was quite hesitant to hand over the vehicle, so he offered to drive Burnette wherever he wanted to go . . . his destination being in the area north of Grand Rapids.

At this point, Schweitzer made his departure from his home at 6377 Bluewater Highway (M-21) but not on the trip he had planned for the day.

As they entered the City Limits of Lowell, Schweitzer informed the inmate he'd better stop and call his wife, so she wouldn't become suspicious of his unannounced disappearance.

Once in the phone booth, while his reluctant passenger patiently waited, Schweitzer got hold of the operator and briefly explained his plight. Feeling confident that the sweet voice on the other end of the line would inform the proper authorities, Schweitzer continued his mission towards the furniture city.

As they approached the Northland Drive area, Burnette sighted a patrolling police car, got nervous, and demanded Schweitzer to stop and let him out, but not before he took the \$2.00 Schweitzer had in his wallet.

"It's not much compensation," Schweitzer chuckled, "but he did leave his coat in my car, but I had to turn it over to the authorities later."

Schweitzer, then, feeling the episode was closed, returned to his home only to find out that the authorities had not been contacted and his passenger was still at-large.

Prison officials said Burnette, a dormitory trustee, walked off the prison grounds sometime around 4 a.m. after he had stuffed his bed with a dummy.

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL—At Rosie Drive Inn, 800-W. Main, Lowell: Hippy Burgers, 75c. Pitcher of Pop, \$1.00. Tuesday Night, Burger Night; Wednesday Night, Chicken Night; Saturday Night, Sizzler Night. New Summer Hours: Mon.-Sat., 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. c34

At Amphitheatre

Boots Randolph To Make Third Lowell Appearance

Boots Randolph, who will emcee his own Boots Randolph Show at the Lowell Showboat Amphitheatre, Saturday night, July 10, refers to himself as "The world's greatest hillbilly saxophone player." He hastily adds, " 'Cause I'm the only hillbilly sax player! "

The "Yakety Sax" specialist is practicing levity in the description.

He blends jazz, pop, rock and blues and some country into his crowd-pleasing performances. The "hillbilly" tag is a gag; an attention-getter.

"Actually," he admits, "I play for the people. I don't go too heavy on any form. I try to play something for the jazz buffs and something for the country fans—and something for everybody."

"Of course," Boots continues, "I bear down on my rendition of "Yakety Sax." It is MY song."

"I've performed a thousand times in concerts and in night-clubs, etc., and always get around to playing "Yakety Sax." The people demand it and I never get tired of playing it."

Boots admits he owes a lot to "Yakety Sax."

"It got me started, or at least got me attention when I was starting. My record of it sold more than a million copies—and is still selling."

"It has made a lot of money for me. "Yakety Sax" has been a financial comfort." "A Southern Comfort," he adds with a grin.

Boots says he tries to give a peak performance and excite the people.

"If a performer can't generate excitement," he believes, "he'd better quit."

Boots Randolph is making his third appearance on the Showboat stage, and has never failed to enthrall his audience.

A Show-Stopper

Jethro Burns, veteran funny-man and talented mandolin player, will be a special guest star on the Boots Randolph Show which has a concert scheduled for Saturday night, July 10 at the Lowell Showboat Amphitheatre.

The Boots Randolph Show, headlined by sax-specialist Boots Randolph is now in its eighth season, and is making its third appearance in Lowell.

Jethro was formerly with the comedy duo of Homer and Jethro. Homer (Henry Hayes) died unexpectedly a year ago and Jethro (Kenneth Burns) is performing now as a single.

"There aren't many original jokes," he says, "but what I do is recycle some of the old ones."

"You play to your audience. A family audience is great to play to," he believes.

"Women are easier to make laugh than men," Jethro says.

"Get the wife or a girlfriend of a male (naturally) on your side and you've got it made."

Jethro's act also featured parodies of the award-winning "Help Me Make It Through The Night" is a show-stopper.

He also sings straight. "On the Street Where You Live" is included in his repertoire.

Tickets for this show can be reserved by calling the Lowell Showboat ticket office at 897-9237.



Boots Randolph, along with the Boots Randolph Orchestra promise an evening of great entertainment for the whole family.



Jethro Burns, his mandolin, his songs, and his humor will enhance the show.

Vacation Issue . . .



The Grand Valley Ledger will be closed July 5-11, re-opening on Monday, July 12 at 8 a.m. This edition went to press early, enabling all staff members to have a well-deserved summer vacation.

BEVERLY SPILLANE, Write-In Candidate for Lowell Township Supervisor. Vote August 3rd. c34-37

THE PERSONAL TOUCH—Individualized hair coloring at Vanity Hair Fashions, 203 E. Main, Lowell, 897-7506. c34

HARRY YETTER, Write-In Candidate for Lowell Township Supervisor. Vote August 3rd. c35

Air-Conditioned
STRAND Theatre
LOWELL, MICHIGAN

Fri, July 9
thru
Mon., July 12

Two
Walt Disney
Features . . .

'DUMBO' &
'RIDE A WILD PONY'

WONDERFUL
FAMILY
ENTERTAINMENT

One Show Each
Night At 8 p.m.
MONDAY IS DOLLAR NIGHT



are going on with five endmen this year.

Heaven forbid. Interlocutor Gordon Gould has formulated a Numbers Racket, involving all the endmen. We'll probably all end up in the clink. To expedite (it's a good word I wish I knew what it means) the show this year three endmen will sing each night with all five singing Saturday night.

Gord put five numbers in the hat and each endman drew a number. Here's what happened. Buck No. 1, McNeal No. 2, Meredith No. 3, Fenech No. 4, Vezino No. 5. Now 3-2-1 will sing on Monday, 4-5-1 will sing on Tuesday, 2-3-4 will sing on Wednesday, 3-4-5 will sing on Thursday, 1-2-3-4-5 will sing on Friday, 1-2-3-4-5 will sing on Saturday. Now you figure out who sings when.

Lowell Showboat's annual "Talent Search Night" will be held at the Amphitheatre on Saturday evening, July 17. Six top acts will be chosen to be on this year's show. One act will appear each night.

**Vote August 3rd
Bob Hill
Kent County Sheriff**
Paid Political Ad

WHEAT FARMERS
Tecumseh wheat matures earlier than other varieties. Consequently, you should plan on combining it a few days early.
The above information is recommended by Dr. Everett Everson, Professor at Michigan State University, and the developer of Tecumseh variety of wheat.
KING MILLING COMPANY
Lowell, Michigan

Special Showboat Week attractions: Thursday and Friday, July 29 and 30: Lowell Showboat Garden Club Flower Show at the Runciman Elementary School all-purpose room. "Heritage '76" will be open for public viewing on Thursday 4 to 9:30 p.m. and on Friday, 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Free admission.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 29, 30 and 31, the Black Pearl Art Fair will hold a show on Main Street.

Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31, an Ice Cream Social will be held at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell on East Main Street, open to the public, between the hours of 4:30 and 8 p.m.

On Saturday, July 31, the Lowell Lions Club will prepare and serve barbecued chicken from 4 to 8 p.m.

Listen for next week's Whistle Toots.

'HAPPY BIRTHDAY'

JULY 9: Kent McKay, Elaine Blasher.

JULY 10: Randy Johnson, Merle Sebastian, Doug Burton, Shelly Wolf, Adam Buck.

JULY 11: Ruby Avery, Jennifer Holcomb, Earl Esterline, Gladys Schrouder.

JULY 12: Ethel Kelly, Scott Esterline.

JULY 13: John Jones, Daniel Kline, Cheryl Parsons, Ann Summers, Alfred Doty, Ruth Teale.

JULY 14: Jim Cook, Jr., Betty North, Florence Krystiniak.

JULY 15: Laura Yost, Carolyn Briggs.

Which Is The Oldest Business Of All?

In honor of the Bicentennial era, the Historical Society of Michigan is holding a contest to find the oldest business in the state.

The Oldest Business in Michigan Contest will locate the oldest ongoing businesses that still pursue their original business or one that is closely related.

According to Frank C. Wilhelm, director of the state historical society, the contest is being conducted to encourage Michigan communities to become more aware of their business and industrial history.

"We hope that this contest will also increase the interest in preserving important commercial and industrial buildings throughout the state," Wilhelm said. "These structures serve as significant visual links with our past."

Winners will be named in three contest categories:

1. Oldest continuously operating business in original building.
2. Oldest continuously operating business on original site but not in original building.
3. Oldest continuously operating business relocated from original building and site.

Winners in each category will receive framed certificates from the Historical Society of Michigan and honorary corporate memberships in the society.

In addition, the business with the oldest overall founding date will be presented with a framed pen and ink drawing of its first business office.

All businesses entering the contest that were founded at

least 100 years ago will receive certificates recognizing them as centennial businesses.

The State Library, the State Archives, and the State Historic Preservation Officer will receive a list of all businesses that entered the contest and their founding dates. This information will be used by researchers studying Michigan's early commercial and industrial history.

Entries should include: (1) name of business, address, and zip code, (2) date business was founded, (3) Zerex copy or description of documentation to verify founding date, (4) contest category, and (5) name and address of person submitting entry.

All entries should be post-marked no later than August 15. They should be mailed to the Historical Society of Michigan, 2117 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104.

Winners of the contest will be announced as soon as the results are tabulated.

A nonprofit organization, the Historical Society of Michigan promotes the preservation of state and local history throughout Michigan. It is supported by more than 5,000 individual and corporate members.

Farm Owners Asked To Comply With New Standard

Beginning June 7, 1976, farm employers engaged in agriculture were required to meet some of the safety provisions of the new Machine Guarding Standard for Agriculture issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) stated Robert Zeeb, Chairman of the Michigan State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

The purpose of the standard is to protect farm owners and their employees from hazards associated with moving parts of farm machinery.

According to a recent OSHA report, guards or shields must be placed on power take-off drives for such field equipment as tractors, swathers, cotton pickers, hay balers, bale loaders, forage harvester, hay cubers and vegetable harvesters. Self-unloading forage wagons, gravity-unload grain trailers, all types of manure spreaders and portable grinder-mixers are considered field equipment.

Farmstead equipment such as auger and flight elevators, mechanical bunk feeders, silo unloaders, bin unloading systems, grains dryers, grinders, mixers, sorting tables, coolers and all other types of material-handling equipment must be guarded.

Lack of adequate power take-off guarding is considered a recognized hazard for which farmers can be cited and penalized even in the absence of a specific standard, the report stated. Farm employers cannot permit any employee to operate machinery around the farmstead unless the power drive is guarded.

Also required are nip-point guards (sometimes called "pinch" or "mesh" points), on all driven gears, belts, chains, sheaves, pulley sprockets, idlers and rollers.

Employee operators must be instructed in the safe operation and servicing of tractors, field implements and farmstead equipment that they operate.

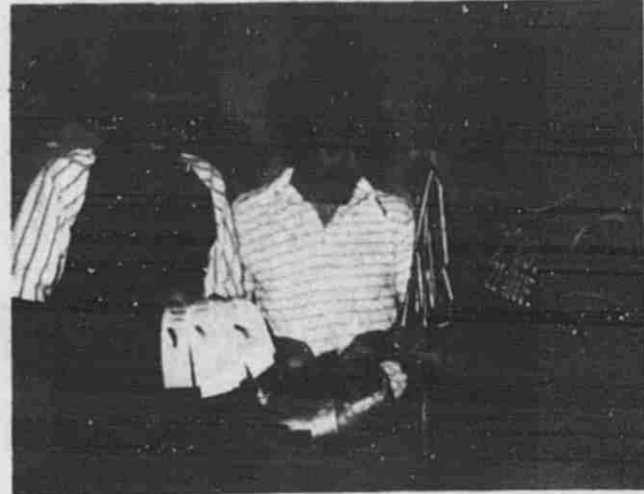
Farm employers are urged to comply with the Machine Guarding Standard for a safer farming operation.

CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST

While many Michiganders are grilling hotdogs in the backyard or sunning at the beach more than 1,000 nurserymen and "tree farmers" will focus on Christmas in August.

That's when the National Christmas Tree Convention takes place in Holland, Mich., August 10-13, explains Ottawa County Extension Director Larry Stebbins.

Gold, Silver And Bronze



Craig Wittenbach, Bob Bewell and Blake Johnson are admiring the Bicentennial Medals to be awarded in the YMCA Bicentennial Road Run, Saturday, July 24. Three medals, a gold, silver and bronze, will be awarded the top three finishers in each of three divisions, Women's, Men's, and Master's (age 40 and up).

Souvenir ribbons will be given to every finisher in the race. Starting at Fallsburg Park, at 10 a.m., the race will cover six miles.

Pruss Named 'Baker For Senate' Chairman

Republican U.S. Senate candidate Deane Baker this week named Donald E. Pruss chairman of the Kent County Baker for Senate Committee.

Mr. Pruss, of 6904 Ada Drive S.E., will be responsible for coordinating Baker's campaign activities in Kent County. Baker said. Baker, a University of Michigan Regent, is running his statewide campaign as an "independent Republican."

This week Baker finished a month-long bicycle tour of the state, in which he pedaled more than 850 miles, talking with people along the way, and stopping frequently to speak out on current issues facing the voter.

"I believe in Republican principles," Baker says, "but I don't follow the party line blindly." Baker says that his bicycle tour is an example of his independence.

Mr. Pruss is the president of the Grand Rapids Screen Company and he and his wife, Shirley, have three children ranging in age from 21 to 15. A resident of Grand Rapids for 12 years, Pruss is a member of the Y's Men, the Urban League and the Urban League Housing Corporation. He is also associated with the Chamber of Commerce and Switchboard, a 24 hour phone assistance center.

Don will play a key role in the grassroots level of my campaign," Baker said. "He will help bring my campaign to the people of Kent County in a way that I couldn't do by myself.

Persons interested in helping with the Baker for U.S. Senate campaign and persons who would like more information about Deane Baker may contact Mr. Pruss at his home by calling 676-1436 (home) or 459-0229 (office).

JULY 10 DATE FOR SECOND HORSE SHOW

The second horse show for the 1976 season sponsored by the Kent County 4-H Horse Leaders has been scheduled for July 10.

Local promoter, Miss Gail Warning, reveals there is no admission charge for the show and invites everyone to stop and watch.

Receive Degrees From

Davenport College

The following Lowell area students graduated from Davenport College of Business in Grand Rapids during Commencement exercises June 13th:

Keith Allen Anderson, son of Marvin and Carol Anderson, 1631 Stonewood, Lowell, with an associate degree in business management;

Thomas Lee Bergy, son of Mrs. Doris Bergy, 8869 Bergy Avenue, Alto, with highest honor and an associate degree in accounting;

Patrick D. McGarry, son of Mrs. B. McGarry, 7765 Four Mile Rd., Ada, with honor and an associate degree in accounting/computer programming;

Jacquelyn Ann Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Roberts, 2493 Pettis, Ada, with an associate degree in hospitality;

David L. Steenwyk, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. David Steenwyk, Sr., 1238 Sibley, Lowell, with an associate degree in hospitality.



**VOTE AUGUST 3RD
Don Harrington
County Commissioner**
Paid Political Ad

SPECIAL!
Thurs., Fri., & Sat.
July 8, 9 & 10
Sizzler Dinner
\$3.00
Now Serving... HOT DOGS
... throughout the summer.
THE VILLAGE INN
211 W. MAIN ST., LOWELL

SUMMER SAVINGS

CHICKENS WHOLE FRYERS
Limit Three Please
LB. 39¢

Boneless Beef Rump Roasts \$1.49

Beef Sizzle Steaks LARGE LB. \$1.59
Sliced Bacon SPARTAN REGULAR OR THICK PKG. 1 LB. \$1.39
Tender Beef Cube Steaks LB. \$1.59
Beef Round Steak LB. \$1.59

SWEET & JUICY PEACHES LB. 19¢
HOT HOUSE Tomatoes LB. 59¢

CRISCO Shortening 48 OZ. \$1.29
HERSHEY'S Chocolate Syrup 16 OZ. \$3.10
SPARTAN, AMERICAN Cheese Slices 16 SLICES 12 OZ. 89¢

YARSLINE INTENSIVE CARE BODY LOTION 79¢
Arrid Extra-Dry 79¢

OVEN FRESH Big '30' Bread 2/89¢
SUNSHINE Cheez-It Crackers 2/89¢
OVEN FRESH Old Style Bread 20 OZ. 49¢

EDON Bathroom Tissue 4 ROLL PKG. 39¢
WITH COUPON BELOW

SPARTAN ASSORTED SOUPS 4/88¢
Beef Noodle/Vegetable Beef
Beef w/Vegetables & Barley
10 1/2 OZ. WT. CANS

SPARTAN FROZEN PIZZA 89¢
PEPPERONI OR SAUSAGE

BETTY CROCKER CAKE MIXES 38¢
18 OZ. WT. ASSORTED PKG.

ABC 7-UP, ORS ORANGE CRUSH, DR. PEPPER, OR HIRES 6 PK. OF 12 OZ. CANS 88¢

COUNTRY FRESH FROZEN Assorted ICE MILK 49¢
1/2 GALLON

COUPON Soft Margarine 28¢
SPARTAN (17.5 OZ. PKG.)
REDEEM AT ADGATE'S
SAVE 19¢

COUPON Kool-Aid \$1.19
ASSORTED FLAVORS
33 OZ.
REDEEM AT ADGATE'S
SAVE 60¢

COUPON Cool Whip 58¢
13 1/2 OZ.
REDEEM AT ADGATE'S
SAVE 37¢

COUPON Bathroom Tissue 39¢
4 ROLL PKG.
REDEEM AT ADGATE'S
SAVE 20¢

ADGATE'S SARANAC, MICHIGAN
OPEN 8 TO 9 WEEKDAYS - CLOSED SUNDAY

PRICES EFFECTIVE THRU SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1976
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES

ONE NIGHT SHOW
THE ALL NEW
BOOTS RANDOLPH SHOW
SHOW IN PERSON
BOOTS RANDOLPH
"Mr. Sox"
FULL CONCERT
FEATURING
THE BOOTS RANDOLPH ORCHESTRA
At The Lowell Showboat Amphitheatre
Saturday, July 10 At 9:00 P.M.
Third Appearance In Lowell
RESERVED SEATS Tickets; \$4.00, \$5.00 & \$6.00
Tickets at The Lowell Showboat Office, 897-9237, Grinnell's in Grand Rapids and Battle Creek, Herp's in Grand Rapids.
IN CASE OF RAIN, ALL TICKETS GENERAL ADMISSION AT THE LOWELL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL.